

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SURVEY FOR HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING

We need your help!

Our community is currently engaged in a planning process to become less vulnerable to disasters caused by natural hazards, and your participation is important to us!

Catawba County and its municipalities are working together to prepare a *Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan*. The purpose of this Plan is to identify and assess our community's natural hazard risks (such as flooding, winter storms, tornadoes and wildfires) and determine how to best minimize or manage those risks. Upon completion, the Plan will become presented to each local governing body for adoption and then submitted to the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency for review and approval.

This survey questionnaire provides an opportunity for you to share your opinions and participate in the mitigation planning process. The information you provide will help us better understand your hazard concerns and can lead to mitigation activities that should help lessen the impact of future hazard events.

Please help us by completing this survey and mail it to:

Mary George
Planning & Community Development
Catawba County Government
PO Box 389
Newton, NC 28658

Surveys can also be faxed to: 828-465-8484

If you have any questions regarding this survey, or would like to learn about more ways you can participate in the development of our Hazard Mitigation Plan, please contact Mary George with Catawba County Planning & Community Development at (828) 465-8264 or by e-mail at mary@catawbacountync.gov.

This survey is for residents and property owners of Catawba County only.

1. Do you:

- ☐ Own property in Catawba County?
- ☐ Live in Catawba County?

2. What city/town do you live in? _____

3. Have you ever experienced or been impacted by a disaster?

- ☐ Yes (please explain): _____
- ☐ No

4. How concerned are you about the possibility of our community being impacted by a disaster?

- ☐ Extremely concerned
- ☐ Somewhat concerned
- ☐ Not concerned

5. Please select the one hazard you think is the *highest threat* to your neighborhood:

- ☐ Dam Failure
- ☐ Drought
- ☐ Earthquake
- ☐ Erosion
- ☐ Extreme Heat
- ☐ Flood
- ☐ Hail
- ☐ Hazardous Materials
- ☐ Hurricane
- ☐ Land Subsidence
- ☐ Landslide
- ☐ Lightning
- ☐ Major Urban Fire
- ☐ Pipeline Failure
- ☐ Severe Winter Storm
- ☐ Terrorism
- ☐ Tornado / Wind Storm
- ☐ Wildland Fire
- ☐ Other (please explain): _____

6. Please select the one hazard you think is the *second highest threat* to your neighborhood:

- ☐ Dam Failure
- ☐ Drought
- ☐ Earthquake
- ☐ Erosion
- ☐ Extreme Heat
- ☐ Flood
- ☐ Hail
- ☐ Hazardous Materials
- ☐ Hurricane
- ☐ Land Subsidence
- ☐ Landslide
- ☐ Lightning
- ☐ Major Urban Fire
- ☐ Pipeline Failure
- ☐ Severe Winter Storm
- ☐ Terrorism
- ☐ Tornado / Wind Storm
- ☐ Wildland Fire
- ☐ Other (please explain): _____

7. Is there another hazard not listed above that you think is a wide-scale threat to your neighborhood?

- ☐ Yes (please explain): _____
☐ No

8. Is your home located in a floodplain?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ I don't know

9. Do you have flood insurance?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ I don't know

a. If "No", why not?

- ☐ Not located in floodplain
☐ Too expensive
☐ Not necessary because it never floods
☐ Not necessary because I'm elevated or otherwise protected
☐ Never really considered it
☐ Other (please explain): _____

10. Have you taken any actions to make your home or neighborhood more resistant to natural hazards?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

a. If "Yes", please explain:

11. Are you interested in making your home or neighborhood more resistant to natural hazards?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

12. What is the most effective way for you to receive information about how to make your home and neighborhood more resistant to natural hazards?

- ☐ Newspaper
- ☐ Television
- ☐ Radio
- ☐ Internet
- ☐ Mail
- ☐ Public workshops/meetings
- ☐ Other (please explain): _____

13. In your opinion, what are some steps your local government could take to reduce or eliminate the risk of future natural hazard damages in your neighborhood?

14. Are there any other issues regarding the reduction of risk and loss associated with natural hazards or disasters in the community that you think are important?

15. A number of community-wide activities can reduce our risk from natural hazards. In general, these activities fall into one of the following six broad categories. Please tell us how important you think each one is for your community to consider pursuing.

Category	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
<u>1. Prevention</u> Administrative or regulatory actions that influence the way land is developed and buildings are built. Examples include planning and zoning, building codes, open space preservation, and floodplain regulations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>2. Property Protection</u> Actions that involve the modification of existing buildings to protect them from a hazard or removal from the hazard area. Examples include acquisition, relocation, elevation, structural retrofits, and storm shutters.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>3. Natural Resource Protection</u> Actions that, in addition to minimizing hazard losses, also preserve or restore the functions of natural systems. Examples include: floodplain protection, habitat preservation, slope stabilization, riparian buffers, and forest management.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>4. Structural Projects</u> Actions intended to lessen the impact of a hazard by modifying the natural progression of the hazard. Examples include dams, levees, seawalls, detention/retention basins, channel modification, retaining walls and storm sewers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>5. Emergency Services</u> Actions that protect people and property during and immediately after a hazard event. Examples include warning systems, evacuation planning, emergency response training, and protection of critical emergency facilities or systems.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>6. Public Education and Awareness</u> Actions to inform citizens about hazards and the techniques they can use to protect themselves and their property. Examples include outreach projects, school education programs, library materials and demonstration events.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!